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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Wolfgang Schnell et al

Application Number: Filed concurrently herewith

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Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title: COOKING DEVICE

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment prior to calculating the filing fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-18, as follows:

10. (New) A cooking device, comprising:

a muffle, including a cooking chamber;

said cooking chamber including side walls, a top wall and back wall and a front opening which can be closed by a cooking device door;

said cooking chamber including a retainer recess at the bottom of said chamber with a thermal radiation-permeable

cover mounted thereto, said cover covering a heat element arrangement for providing heating from said bottom of said chamber; and

said cover including an edge upswept at least to said side walls and said rear wall of said cooking chamber.

11. (New) The cooking device according to claim 10, including said cover including a collection area surface adjacent said upswept edge.

12. (New) The cooking device according to claim 10, including said said upswept edge mounted in said retainer recess.

13. (New) The cooking device according to claim 11, including said upswept edge having a height of about three to five centimeters above said collection area surface.

14. (New) The cooking device according to claim 12, including at least one seal mounted between said upswept edge said retainer recess.

15. (New) The cooking device according to claim 14, including said seal formed from fiberglass.

16. (New) The cooking device according to claim 14, including said seal mounted at least about a height of about two to five centimeters above said collection area surface.